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May 20, 2004

Mary Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, Mass. 02110

RE: Energy Efficiency filing of New England Gas Co. – Fall River Service
Area (April 6, 2004), DTE 04-42

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

On or about April 1, 2004, Bay State Gas Co., Berkshire Gas Co., the Fall River and North Attleboro Service Areas of New England Gas Co., and NStar Gas (the Companies) filed their Energy Efficiency Program plans (including petition for pre-approval thereof and for recovery of related costs) with the Department for the period May 1, 2004 through April 30, 2009. This letter is filed on behalf of the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance network (described in G.L. c. 25, sec. 19), the Massachusetts Community Action Program Directors Association Inc. (MASSCAP), and the Low-Income Energy Affordability Network (LEAN). It requests that the aforementioned parties be granted intervenor status in the above-captioned docket.

G.L. c. 25, sec. 19 (St. 1997, c. 164, sec. 37) provides that “The low-income residential demand-side management and education programs shall be implemented through the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance program network and shall be coordinated with all gas distribution companies in the commonwealth with the objective of standardizing implementation.” LEAN was established among the member agencies of the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance program network to provide the services required for implementing the coordination requirements of the statute. MASSCAP is the organization of community action programs that make up most of the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance program network. Members of both MASSCAP and LEAN implement portions of the Companies’ low-income DSM programs, including that of the above-captioned Company.

Pursuant to Orders of the Department, LEAN and MASSCAP agencies are operating low-income efficiency programs for the Companies under extensions of agreements that would otherwise have expired on March 30, 2004. LEAN and MASSCAP agencies also operate low-income efficiency programs under current agreements with KeySpan (formerly Boston Gas, Colonial Gas and Essex Gas) and Fitchburg Gas & Electric (gas division).

The petitioners have questions about program design and budget with respect to the above-captioned filing and seek intervention with the expectation of reaching settlement agreement with respect thereto.

Wherefore, the low-income weatherization and fuel assistance network, the Massachusetts Community Action Program Directors Association Inc., and the Low-Income Energy Affordability Network respectfully request that the Department grant intervenor status to these petitioners.

Respectfully submitted,

The low-income weatherization and fuel assistance network
Massachusetts Community Action Program Directors Association Inc., and
Low-Income Energy Affordability Network

By

Jerrold Oppenheim

cc: Michael Killion, Esq., Hearing Officer
Emmett Lyne, Esq.